

**MINUTES OF THE
COASTAL REGIONAL COMMISSION COUNCIL
February 12, 2014
Richmond Hill City Center, Richmond Hill, GA
10:05 A.M.**

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chairman Jason Coley called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Invocation was provided by Herb Jones, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Craig Root, Clyde Taylor, Sean Register, Walter Gibson, Herb Jones, Ken Lee, Shaw McVeigh, William Miller, Harold Fowler, Robert Long, Dan Coty, Donald Lovette, Linda Barker, Chris Blaine, Allen Brown, David Boland, John Morrissey, Matthew Barrow, Jimmy Starline, Charles Wilson, and Jason Coley.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kelly Spratt, Jan Moore, Tom Ratcliffe, Reggie Loper, Chap Bennett, Jimmy Burnsed, Julie Martin, Hugh Hodge, Gwendolyn Davis, Edna Jackson, Herb Hill, J.C. Warren, Jim Thomas, Margaret Evans, Russell Keen, and Al Scott.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT: Ron Elliott, Fort Stewart.

GUESTS: Eleanor Legg and Alberta Mabry, McIntosh County; Rev. Lloyd Dees, Effingham County; David Hainley, Glynn County; Patrick Graham, CHA; Jeff Ricketson, LCPC; Brynn Grant and Leigh Ryan, World Trade Center; Clay Mobley, Georgia Conservancy; Daniel DeMarino and Keith Ziobron, Obrien and Gere; Wally Orrel, McIntosh IDA; Joe Parker, Jr, Freelance Reporter.

STAFF PRESENT: Allen Burns, Executive Director; Lena Geiger, Finance Director; Don Masisak, Transportation Director; Lauren Robesky, Economic Development Director; Meizi Wolven and Bill Compton, Grant Specialists; Dionne Lovett, Aging Services Director; Peggy Luukkonen, ADRC Program Manager; and Colletta Harper, Administrative Services Director.

NEW COUNCIL MEMBER: Glynn County Commissioner Clyde Taylor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Vice Chairman Coley requested approval of the minutes from the January 8th meeting.

Motion: Linda Barker
Second: Mayor Ken Lee
Vote: Unanimous

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of St. Marys' Mayor John F. Morrissey to the Budget & Finance Committee– (*See Attachment 1, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.*) A motion was made to approve the appointment of Mayor John Morrissey to the Budget & Finance Committee.

Motion: David Boland
Second: Linda Barker
Vote: Unanimous

Approval of the Update to the Area Plan for Aging Services for FY 2012-2015 of Coastal Georgia. (*See Attachment 2, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.*) Rev. Lloyd Dees, Aging Services Advisory Council member greeted CRC Council members. Ms. Dionne Lovett, Aging Services Director, provided a brief overview of the Area Plan Process. It is normally a four-year planning cycle; however, DHS has extended the plan for one year so the state and Georgia's AAAs will be on the same cycle. The Plan is due to DHS March 1

and the goals were approved by the Aging Services Advisory Council at their January meeting. The Council has approved the goals for the last three years. The goals remain unchanged and is anticipated they will be met. This year the focus will be on the budget, as the Coastal region will sustain a \$1.3 million reduction in funding from the state since FY12 due to population shifts according to the 2012 census and sequestration. The projected budget is \$5,049,045; however, the state normally sends an amendment in July which has historically seen reductions. A motion was made to approve the updates to the Area Plan and the accompanying resolution.

Motion: Shaw McVeigh

Second: Craig Root

Vote: Unanimous

Disclosure of Business Transactions: *(See Attachment 3, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)*

Executive Director Burns stated this is a DCA requirement that has to be submitted each year and the attached form indicates that no staff had personal business transactions with local governments. There was a brief discussion on what information is provided to employees to provide guidance in regards to what they were asked to sign. Executive Director Burns stated there was information in the Employee Handbook and that any employee who has a second job has to receive Executive Director approval; most the times those jobs are at restaurants or Belk's. A motion was made to approve the Disclosure of Business Transactions.

Motion: Mayor Ken Lee

Second: Commissioner Walter Gibson

Vote: Unanimous

Approval of Transportation for Special Events: *(See Attachment 4, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)*

Executive Director Burns explained that approval of this service would allow the transit program to accommodate transit needs for special events within our region, e.g., pick-up location in Brunswick for individuals to ride to St. Simons pier for the 4th of July fireworks. A local jurisdiction would have to make the request. There was a brief discussion on the fees and different distances traveled. This is different from chartered service since individuals would pay their own fare, as opposed to one entity paying for an organized group to ride. A motion was made to allow the Transit Program to provide transportation for special events as warranted.

Motion: Shaw McVeigh

Second: Craig Root

Vote: Unanimous

Approval of Authorizing Resolution for a grant for public transportation assistance under Section 5311:

(See Attachment 5, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.) Mr. Donald Masisak, Transportation Director, stated it was time once again to submit an application for funding under the 5311 program to GDOT; and to enter into a contract with the Georgia Dept. of Human Services for transportation services for FY15 and Council approval is needed for both. A motion was made to pass the Authorizing Resolution.

Motion: Herb Jones

Second: Sean Register

Vote: Unanimous

Approval of Authorizing Resolution for the CRC to enter into a written Contract with the Georgia Dept. of Human Services for transportation services: *(See Attachment 6, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)*

A motion was made to pass the Authorizing Resolution.

Motion: Sean Register

Second: Herb Jones

Vote: Unanimous

PRESENTATIONS

World Trade Center – Ms. Brynn Grant provided a PowerPoint presentation on the World Trade Center (WTC) in Savannah. Licensed in October 2011, the WTC is the international arm of the Savannah Economic Development Authority, and is a proactive international business and trade development organization created to develop and optimize international networks and opportunities to drive economic growth in the region. WTC is a member of the World Trade Centers Association, a global association of hundreds of World Trade Centers in some 100 countries.

Through the combined networks of international trade and business development experts, WTC meets the specific needs of their partners and clients by providing international market research, business matchmaking and connections to valuable public and private resources, as well as through the planning of strategic trade missions, educational programs and networking events.

Ms. Leigh Ryan spoke about the benefits of Foreign Trade Zone 104. The primary activities focus on warehouse distribution and manufacturing; cannot do retail. A foreign trade zone is a federally approved location within the U.S., which is considered outside of US Customs territory where domestic and foreign merchandise may be placed without formal customs entry and without payment of duties and taxes. Their purpose is to attract and promote international trade and commerce.

OTHER BUSINESS

Update on GARC – None.

DRI Report: *(See Attachment 7, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)* Executive Director Burns referred members to the handout of the Official Report of DRI Findings #2370. This proposed development is located in the southeast quadrants of Interstate 16/Pooler Parkway. The CRC has found this project to be in the best interest of the region and of the State. A motion was made to approve DRI Findings #2370.

Motion: Craig Root
Second: Commissioner Walter Gibson
Vote: Unanimous

Project Status Reports - *(See Attachments 8, 9, 10, and 11 attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)*
If anyone has any questions, please see staff after the meeting.

CADDA Report: No questions were raised regarding the CADDA report. *(See Attachment 12, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Have been busy meeting with our legislative delegation on Aging issues. Just learned that the House has voted to increase meals on wheels to \$750,000. If this is approved, we would receive a portion of the funds.
- Thank you to the Aging Services Advisory Council members for attending the meeting today and for volunteering their time and efforts in regards to aging services. If you city or county has any vacancies on the Aging Services Advisory Council, strongly urge you to appoint someone who can be an active advocate for our region's seniors.

- Attended the Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Executive Planning Session. They will have a reduction in force of about 1,900 soldiers. Will have a human resource representative here next month to explain the process of hiring. This is a good opportunity to keep their expertise and their families in our region.
- Lots of colleges are requiring students to serve as interns and we are currently working with UGA and Georgia Southern. Will be meeting with Savannah State at the end of the month. If the CRC can't use the interns, we will be doing outreach to our local governments to see if they have a need. The City of Darien is currently using an intern to do a fecal count.
- Inclement weather has our bus service discontinued in Bulloch and Screven counties. Will make a determination later this afternoon for Thursday.

Mayor John Morrissey suggested inviting Commissioner Chris Car of the Georgia Dept. of Economic Development to speak at one of our meetings. Executive Director Burns stated we would try to get him sometime late spring after the legislative session has ended.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m., with lunch following.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be on **Wednesday, March 12, 2014, at the Richmond Hill City Center at 10:00 a.m.**